

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A betacellulin mutein or a salt thereof comprising the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 38, ~~wherein the pancreatic β cell differentiation promoting activity is preserved, and the epithelial cell growth promoting activity is reduced.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): A betacellulin mutein or salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~ratio of~~ ratio of the pancreatic β cell differentiation promoting activity to the epithelial cell growth promoting activity is at least twice relative to that of betacellulin.

Claims 3-11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (original): A method for manufacturing a betacellulin mutein or salt thereof according to Claim 1, characterized by culturing the transformants which have been transformed with recombinant vectors containing DNA encoding the betacellulin mutein according to Claim 1 to produce said betacellulin mutein.

Claim 13 (original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a betacellulin mutein or salt thereof according to Claim 1.

Claim 14 (cancelled).

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method for ~~prophylaxis or~~ treatment for diabetes, characterized in that a betacellulin mutein or salt thereof according to Claim 1 is administered to mammals.